

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT: SPRING FACT SHEET NO. 10
Columbia River Joint State Hearing
June 1, 2011

<i>Fisheries under Consideration:</i>	Treaty Indian downstream of Bonneville Dam Recreational salmon upstream of Bonneville Dam
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- Bonneville Dam passage of Chinook through May 31 totals 167,146 adult fish. Counts have been low since mid-May, but have increased in recent days. The spring counting period continues through June 15. TAC currently estimates the Columbia River return of adult upriver spring Chinook to be 204,000 fish.

Treaty Fishery Update

- At the current projected run size, tribal fisheries are limited to a 9.1% harvest rate under the U.S. v. Oregon Management Agreement (18,564 upriver spring Chinook).
- The tribes completed their ceremonial permit fishing earlier in the spring. Platform and hook-and-line fishing is ongoing in Zone 6 but hook-and-line fishing downstream of Bonneville was previously suspended.
- The estimated catch in the combined tribal fisheries through Saturday May 28 is shown in the table below.

2011 Tribal Mainstem Fisheries	
Run Size	204,000
Ceremonial Permits	8,526
Zone 6 Platform/H&L	3,860
Downstream of Bonneville Dam Hook and Line	2,289
Total platform H&L	6,149
Total tribal catch Through May 28	14,675
Total Allowed	18,564
Remaining	3,889
Projected Zone 6 platform catch May 29 through June 15	1,651
Management buffer	2,238

- Tribal staff projects the ongoing Zone 6 platform and hook and line fisheries will harvest approximately 7,800 fish through June 15 based on current catch rates. This leaves a management buffer of approximately 2,200 fish at the current run size. The tribes propose harvesting some of these fish downstream of Bonneville Dam.
- The tribes propose that each of the four tribes will reopen the fishery downstream of Bonneville for all tribal members beginning June 6. The fishery will be open Mondays through Wednesdays June 6 through June 15. The open hours will be from 6 AM through 8 PM daily. Commercial sale of salmon and steelhead caught in this portion of the tribal fishery will be allowed.

- Regulations for Zone 6 and the Yakama regulations for its Zone 6 tributaries remain unchanged.

<p>Recommendation: Spring Season Tribal Fisheries Downstream of Bonneville Dam</p> <p>Season: June 6, 7, 8 and June 13, 14, 15.</p> <p>Open Hours: 6 AM through 8 PM each open day.</p> <p>Area: Areas downstream of Bonneville Dam identified in each tribe's MOU.</p> <p>Allowed Sales: Chinook, steelhead, sockeye, coho, walleye, shad, yellow perch, bass, and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon may not be retained in fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam.</p> <p>Gear: Hook-and-line only for these fishing periods. One pole per fisher only.</p> <p>Additional regulations: No commercial sales are allowed on COE property at Bonneville Dam. Fish must be transported elsewhere prior to sale.</p> <p>The Washington 24 hour Quick Reporting Rule will be in effect for Washington commercial fish buyers.</p>

- Catch and effort is expected to be modest downstream of Bonneville Dam due to high water and generally poor fishing conditions. The tribes will continue to monitor fisheries and make any needed management changes to keep the overall tribal fisheries within management limits.
- On June 16, the start of the summer management period, the tribal fisheries downstream of Bonneville Dam will be open for each tribe consistent with each tribe's MOU, including open hours and days and gear restrictions identified in each tribal MOU. Commercial sales will continue through the summer management period, consistent with Tribal MOUs and the allowable sales outlined for spring-season fisheries.
- The tribes will detail plans for their first two summer season commercial gillnet fisheries (June 16-18 and June 20-23) at the Summer Season Compact Hearing.

Non-Indian Fisheries

- Non-Indian fisheries are allowed 18,564 upriver Spring Chinook mortalities and are restricted to an ESA impact limit of 1.9% based on the current run size estimate. Catch balance accounting is illustrated in the following table, and includes projected catch.

2011 Non-Indian Upriver Spring Chinook Mortalities (kept and release mortalities)				
		Mortalities		
Recreational		Allowed	In Hand	Balance
Below Bonn	projected through June 15	10,818	7,803	3,015
Zone 6	projected through June 2	1,442	2,503	-1,061
Upper Col	closed	28	30	-2
Snake R	projected through June 2	862	1,928	-1,066
		13,150	12,264	886
Commercial				
Mainstem	closed	5,108	3,467	1,641
Select Areas	projected through June 15	306	260	46
		5,414	3,727	1,687
Non-Indian Total		18,564	15,991	2,573

- Recreational fisheries are projected to use 93% of the recreational allocation upriver spring Chinook mortalities through June 2, based on a run size of 204,000 upriver spring Chinook. A run size of 190,000 results in a 98% usage for recreational fisheries
- The recreational fishery from Bonneville Dam upstream to the Oregon/Washington border was open for hatchery Chinook retention from March 16 through May 1 and May 7-10. The fishery is currently scheduled to be open May 28 through June 2.
- Catch has averaged ~15 fish per day, leading to a projected total catch of about 100 fish for May 28-June 2, and a season total of 2,503 fish. Catch is expected to remain low consistent with the poor river conditions.
- The Joint Staff is recommending that this fishery be extended to continue through June 15.

Recreational Spring Chinook Fishery: Bonneville Dam to Oregon/Washington Border
Season: Friday June 3 through Wednesday June 15, 2011.
Area: Tower Island power lines (approximately 6 miles below The Dalles Dam) upstream to Oregon/Washington border plus the Oregon and Washington banks between Bonneville Dam and the Tower Island power lines.
Bag limit: Retention of sockeye, adipose fin-clipped Chinook salmon, and adipose fin-clipped steelhead allowed. Sockeye salmon count towards the adult limit regardless of size. All other permanent regulations apply.
Additional regulations: For the mainstem Columbia River salmon and steelhead fishery from the Rocky Point/Tongue Point line upstream to OR/WA border, effective through June 15, it is unlawful

when fishing from vessels which are less than 30 feet in length (substantiated by Coast Guard documentation or Marine Board registration) to totally remove from the water any salmon or steelhead required to be released.

In Washington, on the mainstem Columbia River anglers may not possess in the field fish mutilated so that size, species or fin clip cannot be determined until the angler has reached their automobile or principle means of land transportation and has completed their daily angling.

- Catch from the proposed season is expected to be less than 300 fish.
- If the states adopt the recommendation as proposed, total non-Indian catch balance would be 16,291 fish (88% of allowed) and total ESA impacts would be 1.58% (83% of allowed).

Future hearings

A Compact hearing to consider summer season treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial fisheries has been scheduled for 10 AM Thursday June 9, 2011. The location of the Compact hearing has not yet been determined.